

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2011

PRESENT: Diane Ripple, Joe Vitale, Shirley Wehmeier, Karen Villarreal, Mary Anderson, Kristina Siroky, James Pearson, Faith Holley-Beal, Lisa McLean, Sarah Badeau, Cathy Warmington, Ed Cohen, Emily Krause, Sarah Matson, Rebecca Doberstein, Alyssa Schroeder, Barb Holtz, Nichole Hunkins

STAFF PRESENT: Jesus Mireles, Lisa Roberts, Eve Altizer, Antwayne Robertson

Diane Ripple called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Joe Vitale made a motion, seconded by Faith Holley-Beal, to approve the minutes of the January 20th meeting.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Joe Vitale reported that there was a short agenda at the last Board meeting. Mike Sturdevant is working on an equipment grant for the Juvenile Center.

The biggest discussion was on the new Health and Human Services Center Building. The existing building's stairway and some of the surrounding area, including part of the golf course, is on the national landmark registry. The new plans have been sent to the land commission to study. Joe stated that he supports the new building, as the current building is not functional or conducive to serving the current needs.

Joe complimented Diane on getting the membership roster up to date.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

Jesús introduced Lisa Roberts, Permanency Services Supervisor, and explained that she would be giving two presentations; one on Strengthening Families and Parent Cafes, and then on Trauma Informed Care.

Lisa began by describing the Parent Cafes initiative, which stems from a national initiative on strengthening families. The strengthening families initiative looks at what makes a healthy family, rather than looking at what's wrong or needs to be fixed. They came up with six protective factors in their study. Then they determined who should get this information. A few states piloted the program, offering technical support and education in early development. The information was taken to different day cares and early education providers. They were asked to be creative and decide what they could do with the information. After a couple of years, they

determined this would be good information for child welfare as well. Lisa stated that she became involved a couple years ago.

The six protective factors are; 1) be strong and flexible, 2) parents need friends, 3) being a great parent is part natural and part learned, 4) we all need help sometimes, 5) parents need to help their children communicate (social and emotional competence), and 6) give your children the love and respect they need (healthy parent-child relationship). This is a constructive, positive approach to educating families. Waukesha County social workers have been trained on this and they have made a connection with their head start folks.

The state of Illinois is a leader in this program, and started the Parent Cafes, creating an opportunity for parents to come together and share. Parent Cafes involve bringing foster parents and community parents together. They are divided into three themes; the first café is taking care of your self, café #2 is be a strong parent, and café #3 is build strong relationships.

They have brought in some community agencies to educate parents on what they do; i.e., they brought in 2-1-1 to inform parents what to do in a crisis, etc. Parents break down into groups at tables, where there is a trained parent host helping to facilitate discussion, answering questions on how to implement the protective factors. It's very interactive and connects people. Many people that come have felt alienated from family members and others in their community. They fill in "make a connection" cards to share their information. The cafes bring people together and help parents learn how to face common challenges and problem solve. Lisa also described some other summaries and exercises they do at the Parent Cafes.

Attendees are asked to complete evaluation forms at the end of every café, and 97% say they would recommend the event to friends or family. They've received very positive feedback.

Parent Cafés are held at the Center for Excellence and they offer certified on-site childcare and dinner. Karen Villeareal asked what time of the evening they end, and Lisa answered that they try not to go past 8:00 p.m. The maximum attendance they have had is 40 in the room, and they could probably accomodate 50. A big part is having enough hosts for the tables, and they can have seven or eight at a table. Lisa gave dates of upcoming cafes; March 15, May 17, July 21, September 22, and November 17, 2011. Shari Rather has the information available to share with families.

Finally, Lisa added that attendees are given a certificate for attending. They ask that people, particularly for the kids and for food, to register ahead, but walk-ins are welcome.

TRAUMA PARTNERSHIP

Lisa described the Trauma Partnership as a group of people in the county wanting a better understanding of creating a trauma sensitive community and a trauma informed system of care. In 2009 a pilot program began in Waukesha County, with Dr. Bruce Perry, a leader in trauma informed care. The county had a team of employees from various parts of the agency meet monthly and participate in case reviews with Dr. Perry and other pilot teams from around the state. Dr. Perry is very engaging and they have been very excited to be involved in this.

Waukesha utilized it's case consultation time with Dr. Perry to discuss the process of becoming a more Trauma Informed System. During that consultation, Dr. Perry recommended getting community partners around the table on a regular basis to discuss trauma and develop goals. From there, a small committee began to meet regularly. St. A's agreed to then co-chair the Partnership with the County. In March of 2010 they had an introductory training and a series of planning meetings. They created a mission statement for the Trauma Partnership. That mission was:

"Be agents of hope and inspiration that will provide information and support through training and a forum for sharing information regarding trauma while building a team of community partners."

Their group consists of about fifty people from all different Waukesha agencies. They've had speakers on various topics; occupational therapy, effects of trauma on child development, etc. A training piece is included at every meeting.

They meet at the Center of Excellence every 2nd Wednesday. Lisa shared upcoming meeting dates; April 13, June 8, August 10, October 12, and December 14, 2011. Meetings are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Lisa shared information on a one-day training scheduled for March 30, 2011 sponsored by St. Aemelian's featuring Dr. Perry at Country Springs. She will email the details to members later today.

Jesús asked Lisa to talk about Elizabeth Hudson. Lisa answered that Elizabeth Hudson was hired to bring the word about trauma and the understanding of it, throughout the state. She is actively involved with the partnership group. She is scheduled as a presenter at their June 8th training session.

Joe asked Jesús to get the info on the March 30th training at Country Springs with Dr. Perry to the Health and Human Services Board. Jesús answered that he would, and added that they already have near capacity registered.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS SUBCOMMITTEE

Jesús stated they are meeting this afternoon. They will be electing another parent to lead the b-3 and family support group.

Parents are charged a fee for family support, and there is a letter explaining the charges to parents. Feedback from parents indicated that the letter is too confusing, so the subcommittee is working on revising that letter.

REVIEW NEEDS LIST

Diane shared hard copies of the draft of the needs list to be presented to the HHS Board on March 31, 2011. The main points are addressing current budget constraints, asking to remain at our current level, and asking for any additional to make up for decreasing funding sources.

Members reviewed each slide in the Power Point presentation. The presentation began by explaining the mission of the Children and Family Services Advisory Committee. They are attempting to show the decreasing funding trends and represent that there are increasing numbers of clients in need.

Diane talked about the demographics in Waukesha County. They also want to show how we are tying into the County's strategic plan. Members discussed impacts, increasing level of risk and needs, dangers in the community, cost effectiveness, positive outcomes, and collaborations.

Barb Holtz asked if Diane has comparative numbers of previous years. Diane answered that she does and would be prepared to answer to that, but would not include that information on the slides.

Diane asked for feedback. If anyone sees something missing, any statistics to add, please let her know if there's something not represented that should be. She also asked for client testimonials that she will attach to the Power Point.

Joe asked that somewhere in the Power Point or on an attachment, for Diane to include the fund raising efforts of CAFSAC members. He also suggested including additional dialog on "what if's" when cutting services, and the cost effectiveness of providing services.

She stated that in the future they will be talking more about collaborations, without duplication, and explaining areas of expertise. Missy Kueht-Becker is preparing an illustration of this, using a pie and it's individual essential ingredients.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nichole Hunkins shared save the dates for the 29th Annual Taste of Milwaukee to benefit United Cerebral Palsy of Southeastern Wisconsin.

Mary Anderson announced Public Health's new services brochure for clinics, immunizations, tb testing, fasting cholesterol, glucose, hemoglobin testing, lead screening, pregnancy testing. Mary will email the brochure to members.

Krisy Siroky, a guest at the meeting, shared that the University of Wisconsin system has a course on trauma care, from 8:00-4:00 over six Saturdays. Occupational therapists, nurses, and social workers attend. She will email members a link for the information.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 17th, 2011 at 8:30 in the Board Room of the Human Services Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Joe Vitale motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ed Cohen at 9:48 a.m.

Approved on 3-17-11
date